Approved For Release 2000/05/16 : CIA-RDP82-00457R000400570009-0 Document. NO CHANGE in Class. 25X1A DECLASSIFIED Class. CHANGED 30: TS 6 DDA Mamo, & Apr 77 Auth: DDA REG. RAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP 77/1763 Date: 0704 INTELLIGENCE REPORT 25X1X DATE: COUNTRY Germany/Russian Zone

SUBJECT

Soviet Negotiations for the Purchase

INFO.

DIST.

26 March 1947

25X1A

of German Property

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN 25X1X

- b. The general director of the Soviet Potash AG in Stassfurt wishes to buy a building which is on the grounds of the Potash Industry (Kali-Industrie). This building is supposed to have been purchased during the war by the military administration for a price of RM 60,000. I have been assured that it is at present under sequestration and not in use.
- "We are supposed to make the necessary repairs and sell the building to the General Directorate of the Soviet Potash Industry. The City Administration, I have been told, is supporting this desire of the SMA.
- The publishing house of the SMA would like to buy four printing firms:
 - Carl Wernecke, Halle
 - b. Fredinand Ashelm, Halle
 - c. Gebauer-Schwetschke Buchdruckerei A.G., Halle
 - d. H. C. Bestehorn K.G., Aschersleben

I have explained to Colonel Medshidov that I am not in a position to decide upon the sale of such objects and that I shall present his request to the Presidium in the next meeting on Thursday. It seemed appropriate for me to state that the printing firms mentioned are the best which we have left and that the Presidium would scarcely agree to any voluntary sale of them.

"My personal opinion is that free sale of such properties cannot be defended in public opinion. The money received therefrom would go into our budget and be used up, so that we would be in a worse position in regard to such properties than is the case with the dismantled enterprises. The latter, according to all information available, will some day be accounted for as reparations, while this would not be the case with firms which are sold voluntarily.

(signed) Dieker"

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